

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-40 (Canceled)

Claim 41. (New) A smoke filter comprising a first portion and a second portion, said first portion being closed against particulate material flow and said second portion providing a through path for particulate material flow, said first portion and said second portion being separated by barrier means, said barrier means is formed from a vapour porous polymeric material having pores therein, which pores have a pore size of less than about 0.1 μm .

Claim 42. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 1, wherein the barrier means is porous to the vapour phase of smoke.

Claim 43. (New) A smoke filter according to Claims 1, wherein said barrier means is formed from a flexible material.

Claim 44. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 1, wherein said polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyethylene, polyvinylidene fluoride, polyvinyl chloride, polycarbonate, nylon, Teflon™ (PTFE), cellulose acetate or nitrocellulose.

Claim 45. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 1, wherein said first portion of the tobacco smoke filter comprises an adsorbent material.

Claim 46. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 5, wherein said adsorbent material is a general adsorbent.

Claim 47. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 6, wherein said general adsorbent is a carbonaceous material.

Claim 48. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 7, wherein said carbonaceous material is in the form of a thread, particles/granules, cloth, paper or a reconstituted carbon-containing paper.

Claim 49. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 6, wherein said general adsorbent is a non-carbonaceous material selected from the group consisting of zeolite, silica, meerschaum, aluminium oxide or combinations thereof.

Claim 50. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 1, wherein said first portion of said smoke filter comprises a catalyst.

Claim 51. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 10, wherein said catalyst facilitates the conversion of carbon monoxide (CO) to carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the vapour phase of the smoke.

Claim 52. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 11, wherein said catalyst is selected from the group consisting of transition metal oxides, silica, alumina, zeolites, impregnated carbon.

Claim 53. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 1, wherein said first portion of said smoke filter comprises a selective adsorbent.

Claim 54. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 13, wherein said selective adsorbent material is selected from the group consisting of an ion-exchange resin, zeolite or silica.

Claim 55. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 1, wherein said first portion comprises an adsorbent and a catalyst.

Claim 56. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 1, wherein said filter further comprises a third portion, which third portion comprises an adsorbent.

Claim 57. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 16, wherein said third portion is located upstream of said first portion of the filter.

Claim 58. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 1, wherein said second portion of said filter comprises a conventional smoke filtration material.

Claim 59. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 18, wherein said conventional smoke filtration material is one or more of cellulose acetate, paper and polypropylene.

Claim 60. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 1, wherein said first and said second portions are in co-axial alignment.

Claim 61. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 20, wherein said first portion forms an inner core and said second portion forms an outer annulus of a core-annulus arrangement.

Claim 62. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 20, wherein said second portion forms a core and said first portion forms an outer annulus of a core-annulus arrangement.

Claim 63. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 1, wherein said first portion is formed of a number of discrete, substantially longitudinal segments arranged in co-axial alignment within said second portion of said filter.

Claim 64. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 23, wherein each segment of said first portion is separated from said second portion by barrier means.

Claim 65. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 1, wherein said first portion is closed to the through flow of particulate phase material at the upstream end thereof.

Claim 66. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 25, wherein closure of said first portion is achieved by a plug.

Claim 67. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 26, wherein said plug is formed from a high pressure drop cellulose acetate, plastic, metal or the barrier material described of claim 4.

Claim 68. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 1, wherein said filter further comprises additional portions of conventional smoke filtration material.

Claim 69. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 28, wherein said first, second and third (if present) portions are in co-axial alignment with at least one additional filter portion.

Claim 70. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 29, wherein said additional portion of said filter is in end-to-end abutment with said first, second and third (if present) portions of the filter.

Claim 71. (New) A smoke filter according to Claim 1, wherein said additional portion(s) is comprised of cellulose acetate.

Claim 72. (New) A smoking article comprising a smoke filter according to Claim 1 in combination with a rod of smoking material wrapped in a wrapper.

Claim 73. (New) A smoking article according to Claim 32, wherein said smoking material comprises a flavourant.

Claim 74. (New) A smoking article according to Claim 33, wherein said flavourant is in stabilised or encapsulated form.

Claim 75. (New) A smoking article according to Claim 33, wherein said flavourant is a non-volatile flavourant.